



# Portesham C of E VA Primary School

11th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

On behalf of the Governors, Mrs Prior and Mrs Brignell, the Senior leaders, can I take this opportunity to thank you for all that you have been doing at home to support your child during this latest lockdown. Remote learning is not ideal, and the staff are doing their very best to engage the children. Having witnessed some of the Teams lessons myself, they are doing a good job. The online assemblies have given us all a lift: celebrating children's achievements together, albeit remotely, is a source of joy to the staff.

While most of the children are learning at home, we must not forget those who are in school. We know how tough it can be for them, and of course the staff, having to work in well-ventilated rooms, particularly in the present cold snap. The children clearly miss their class friends and we hope it won't be long before they are re-united.

Having all the children in school would be uplifting for everyone. I do remember attending a conference on technology in schools a couple of years ago, where one of the speakers suggested that teachers would soon become unnecessary with the advancement in technology. That may well hold true for building cars, in warehouses, etc, but face to face relationships in school are essential to the emotional, spiritual and academic development of a child.

We realise how stressful life is at present, and we all feel frustrated, fed up and even anxious at times. If you are harbouring any concerns about any aspect of your child's education, please do contact the school straightaway.

At this point, I would like to welcome our two new Parent Governors, Tracey Edwards and David Stansmore, both of whom will bring their own skills to the Governing Body going forward.

Half-term will enable us all to take a deep breath and rejoice in the fact that there won't be any remote learning for the children and parents for a whole week!

It leaves me to thank the staff for their unstinting professionalism and dedication to the children. We are lucky to have so much quality at Portesham School.

Yours sincerely

Clive Burgess MBE  
Chair of Governors